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of view. The statements are clear, reliable, and usually sufficiently exhaustive, though here and there some addition might suggest itself, as, e. g., with the word *honnête*, *une honnête femme*, "a virtuous woman"; with *savant* the meaning "trained," *un chien savant*. Some words, too, have been omitted that seem to call for mention, as the words *neuf* and *nouveau*, etc. On the whole, however, the student will find here reliable information, in a compact and convenient form.

The second part considers syntactical difficulties, but their treatment remains too much on the surface really to add anything of value to the information given on the same subjects in the standard grammars in use. This is a distinct disappointment, because a book of this type might be expected to do what these grammars to a great extent fail to do: give the explanation that enables the student to understand the difficulty, instead of the perfunctory rule that only enables him to elude it. Mr. Clarke remarks himself, e.g., on p. 121, that "for readers of French there is need of a better understanding of the partitive construction than is generally gained from grammars." Then why not give this understanding by a clear explanation of the difficulty? The *Dictionnaire général*, which Mr. Clarke has consulted with so much profit in his vocabulary, would be as helpful here. On p. 250 (Introduction) it suggests, e.g., most lucidly the reason why a prepositional phrase containing *de* can be preceded by another preposition, a somewhat puzzling fact which Mr. Clarke considers of enough importance to mention, without, however, otherwise helping the student's comprehension of it. In spite of this disappointment the book, as far as it goes, is a serviceable, reliable book, which teachers will be able to place with profit in the hands of their students.

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*Health and Medical Inspection.* By WALTER S. CORNELL. Philadelphia: F. A. Davis Co., 1912. Pp. xiv+614. With many illustrations. \$3.00 net.

Medical inspection of school children has had a sufficiently long experience to warrant a review and survey of its accomplishments, as well as the projection of a comprehensive scheme or program for future work in the whole field. Dr. Cornell indicates in the preface that "the aim of this book is to present a practical exposition of the work of medical inspection . . . and to give to physicians and teachers a survey of medical practice as it relates to children of school age."

In a general way, the subject-matter is presented in connection with the five principal health agencies that at present operate, or should operate, in behalf of school children, viz., School Hygiene, Personal Hygiene, Physical Education, Medical Inspection, and Municipal Medical Charity. These several activities are dealt with in separate divisions that follow more or less closely this analysis. A brief history of the scope and aims of medical inspection is given first, reviewing the causes of its efficiency and inefficiency, examining the principles that should govern in the inspection of children for contagious and communicable diseases, giving specimens of records and pertinent suggestions regarding the correction of defects and the means of securing the co-operation of interested parties, the value of free clinics, free school meals, and open-air rooms.

Under the second division, or Hygiene, a canvass is made of school sanitation and personal hygiene, within which is included a discussion of physical education, with a

few suggestions and illustrations relative to adequate physical exercises and drills and plays, and some apposite remarks are made with reference to the common sources of direct contagion which affect the school life of children. The treatment of Personal Hygiene is exceedingly brief and to the point.

The third division of the book discusses defects and diseases. Not only such widely separated topics as the eyes, nose and throat, ears, teeth, the nervous system, the skeleton, nutrition, skin, defective speech, and mental deficiency, but in addition a very valuable chapter on infectious diseases are presented, the whole concluding with a review of the topic, the prevalence of defects and diseases. By far the greater part of this section is devoted to the theme, Mental Deficiency, comprising in all nearly 112 pages, in which the author attempts to enter minutely into the details and methods of diagnosis and education of sub-normal children, and be it added, largely from the viewpoint of the observer rather than that of the experimenter. The chapters that deal, in an illustrative and discursive way, with the anatomy and physiology of the sense organs follow much the same order of presentation that the teacher, in all probability, and the physician, in certainty, will find equally well if not better treated in the orthodox books on these subjects. The discussion of the prevalence of common physical defects among school children and the influence which these defects exert on the child in school life is perhaps the feature of the whole that justifies of itself the writing of the book. Though one may agree that some of the subject-matter of this division is from the point of view of a manual for information on such matters, or indeed for ready reference, either superfluous or of little value, nevertheless it is difficult to say too much in praise of the careful and yet compact treatment of the chapters on nutrition and on infectious diseases. Further, it should be said that the chapter which discusses the prevalence of defects and diseases among school children gives a conservative account of the number afflicted with the several handicaps under which children suffer, estimated in terms of the personal observation and experimentation of the author, which, though in some cases limited to smaller numbers than other investigators have dealt with, yet is upon the whole quite representative.

Necessarily, the whole field is looked at from the point of view of the school medical inspector; whether indeed the text subserves the purpose which the author designs is another matter. There may be room for doubt that any text will, in the present stage of development of this field of public activity, entirely meet the requirements of all interested. From it the novice in school medical inspection may get guidance and direction in the prosecution of his task, even though he must already possess much of the information compiled and submitted. It is difficult indeed to get teachers to read adequately on such topics, and especially is this true when the subject-matter is presented in the form of a large book of some 600 pages; and it may well appear a harsh jumble, to the mind of the skilled teacher, to combine in one sentence a program for consideration of such a variety, as "defects of the eye, the nose and throat, the teeth, and the mind."

In general, to anyone interested and in close contact with children in school life the book will prove a reliable summary of what school medical inspection has accomplished, and at least a valuable spur to the formation of a program of what ought to be done in this field in the future. Every school library should possess a copy.

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